

USACE FINANCE CENTER
BIWEEKLY REPORT
PERIOD ENDING 09 JUNE 2000

CEFMS:

We implemented the GUI version of CEFMS at 2400 hours CDT, Sunday 4 June 2000.

The early news from the implementation was mostly positive. We experienced the normal "glitches" that one would expect from such a large software release.

The problem that proved to be the most challenging was access time and performance (response time) on CPC25 while the other three production machines; CPC26, WPC26, and WPC29 seemed to be within the performance objectives. The IM folks and our CEFMS/ORACLE contractor team worked very closely to identify the problem. As the week advanced they identified and corrected several areas that will contribute to overall performance, at about 1345 on Thursday, 8 June they identified and corrected the problem that was the "root" cause of the slow performance. They identified a "trace" program, unrelated to CEFMS GUI that was generating a tremendous load on CPC25. The "trace" file was generated from an ORACLE application called "Enterprise Manager".

This file may have been loaded by PWC while they were doing the penetration testing for the FY 99 CFO statements or it might have been loaded by a DBA at the center. This same "trace" file was loaded on the other three machines but had not accumulated enough data on those three machines to noticeably impact performance. Our ORACLE experts removed the file from all machines. As soon as that was accomplished the access time was reduced to where it should be and the performance response time immediately was comparable to the other machines.

The situation had to be close to normal on Friday, 9 June, since our biggest problem of the day was how to distinguish between an alpha "o" and a numeric zero.

PROBLEM REPORTS/IMBALANCES:

a. The open problem report inventory is 792 versus 803 on the last report. The inventory includes 100 Priority #1 problem reports. The open inventory also includes 3 problem reports related to the CEFMS Modernization/GUI work management effort.

b. Forty-seven (47) of the sixty-two active databases have no imbalances, eight (8) have one, one (1) has two, two (2) have

four, one (1) has five, one (1) has six, and two (2) have seven the highest number of imbalances. The grand total of database imbalances across the system is 44 versus 25 on the last report.

ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS:

CONSOLIDATION OF OPERATING FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FUNCTIONS:

UPCOMING CONSOLIDATIONS:

----CURRENT SCHEDULE COMPLETE----

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ON BOARD PERSONNEL:

LOCATION:	NUMBER:
Huntsville	24
Millington	291
Washington	1
Other	1
Total	317

DISBURSING WORKLOAD DATA:

PAYMENTS	As of 05/31/00	Current Month	Year To Date
BY CHECK:			

Checks Issued	200,490	5,755	206,245
Percent of Total	50%	41%	49.8%
Dollar Amount	\$2,190,289,914	\$41,654,709	\$2,231,944,623

BY EFT:

Transfers Made	199,889	8,330	208,219
Percent of Total	50%	59%	50.2%
Dollar Amount	\$3,555,324,608	\$132,232,024	\$3,687,556,632

OTHER UFC ISSUES:

a. Both of our two Army Comptrollership Program (ACP) students have obtained positions with other agencies. One employee has already transferred to the National Guard Bureau and the other will transfer to U.S. Army, Europe upon completion of the ACP. Both students received promotions with their new positions.

b. The conversion to Modern DCPDS has been delayed again and is now scheduled for 18 August 2000 in our region, i.e. the South Central Region. A revised milestone schedule will be provided by our CPOC, including revised plans for pre-deployment training at the UFC.

c. We began preparation of our submission for the FY02 Executive Direction and Management (ED&M) budget, which is due 16 June 2000. We are also preparing the FY01 PRIP submission for CEFMS funding which in the past had been prepared by CEIM.

d. We will hold our annual Organization Day Picnic on 16 June at a nearby state park. Employees are allowed to bring their children to work that morning, and we provide refreshments and entertainment to keep the children occupied until time for the picnic. (We use this as an alternative to the Bring Your Daughter/Son to Work Day observances in May each year.) The picnic officially begins at noon with a welcome by the Director. Next there will be a catered lunch followed by various presentations such as certificates for Length of Service. UFC employees will then provide a program of entertainment, and the picnic is scheduled to conclude about 1530 hours.

e. Overall, CEFMS GUI conversion went very well for USACE Finance Center (UFC) Accounting Operations Directorate. UFC accounting personnel were prepared for the conversion. Very little overtime was expended as a result of the conversion, travel reimbursement payments were mailed on time and no interest penalty was paid due to delayed payments. It appears that everything is back to normal in all directorate divisions and branches.

f. Accounting Operations has sent a draft memorandum to all supported activities on a possible misunderstanding of the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) concerning method of reimbursement for shipment of Household Goods (HHG) on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders. The draft memorandum was provided to all supported activities during coordination between CERM-F and the HQ USACE Logistics Directorate. The JTR states that shipment of HHG will be accomplished using a Government Bill of Lading (GBL) versus the commuted rate method unless a cost comparison is completed and the GBL exceeds the commuted rate by \$100.00. Many of our USACE activities are not following the JTR which can impose an undue hardship on the traveler when the PCS voucher is sent to the Finance Center for computation of reimbursement.

g. At the request of several USACE supported activities, the UFC is trying to obtain information from US Bank on the possibilities of becoming a vendor with IMPAC, which will provide the capability to accept IMPAC payments from other Government agencies. We are also investigating the use of the IMPAC card for payment of utilities. If the utility companies will not accept the IMPAC card, the USACE could use the convenience check for payment up to \$2,500. We are coordinating both issues with

the HQ USACE PARC office.

h. The DFAS and KMPG CFO statement meeting at the UFC to discuss implementation of FY2000 statements and elimination data went very well. We had one action to provide DFAS the USACE matrix for the Statement of Net Cost. The matrix cross-walked our civil appropriations by the nine (9) identified business processes. The matrix was developed and provided the following day. We also have a suspense date of June 16th to supply CFO elimination data to DFAS HQ for the period ending 31 March 2000. This elimination exercise included all Civil Works elimination data and Military appropriations revenue data only. We do not see any problem meeting the DFAS 16 June suspense on the CFO elimination exercise.

i. Mr. Charlie Glenn, DFAS HQ newly appointed Project Manager for deployment of DJAS at Fort Benning (either a lateral move or assumption of additional responsibility), Georgia visited the USACE Finance Center 6 June to provide an updated status on the deployment, discuss lessons learned and solicit the assistance of any USACE employees with CEFMS training, conversion and deployment experience. We agreed to provide a list of names, but we cautioned Mr. Glenn that it may be difficult to obtain their services due to the length of time that he would like their assistance (three months), the time of the year involved (August through November), summer vacations, year-end closing, reports, and the activities may not have the resources to provide the assistance due to downsizing. The downsizing in this instance relates to the consolidation of operating finance and accounting functions.